



Walking in the Steps of the Master:

A Twelve Step Guide to Discipleship

COME TO ZION MINISTRIES

Isaiah 49:6...I will give You as a light to the Gentiles, that You should be my salvation to the ends of the earth.

Located in the Western Galilee, Israel

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Step Eleven: Learning How to Minister to Others

Now that the disciple has learned of their giftings, it is time to put those gifts into productive use for the Kingdom of GOD. To assist us in this lesson, we will refer to two main passages of the Word, which will illustrate two different manners of operations for ministering to people. The first such reference is found in Matthew 25:34-36 NLT:

Then the King will say to those on His right, 'Come, you who are blessed by My Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world. For I was hungry, and you fed Me. I was thirsty, and you gave Me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited Me into your home. I was naked, and you gave Me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for Me. I was in prison, and you visited Me.'

We can see some of the gifts of the Holy Spirit at work here in giving, helps, and hospitality. These were activities that were promoted through the Torah instructions and were now being amplified through the ministry of the Holy Spirit. The world is a place where there are many hurting and suffering people. It was the compassion of Yeshua that reached out through Him to touch the lives of the people around him.

We sometimes have the mistaken impression that ministry is for the large organizations, which have big staffs and learned administrators. But in the Kingdom of GOD, it is often the little things that mean the most. Yeshua never hesitated in blessing the children, who were considered the least. Yeshua said that a sparrow does not fall from the sky that the Father doesn't know about it. GOD even knows the number of hairs on our head. So we can feel encouraged that even the little gestures that we do to alleviate the suffering of those around us, is important to GOD.

We often need to deal with the physical needs of everyday subsistence before we can deal with the weightier issues of spiritual maturity. I praise GOD that there have been people throughout the generations that have risen up to help the daily needs of people through loving acts of kindness that shone the light of our LORD to the world. The next reference that we encounter refers to the more spiritual ministry that will affect the soul and spirit of people, Luke 4:18, 19 NLT:

"The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, for He has anointed Me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, and that the time of the LORD's favor has come. "

To the downtrodden of the world, the Good News is the restoration of their relationship to the Father. All else that is beneficial stems from this relationship. One such benefit is the release of our spirit from the clutches of our sin nature. The Good News is that we have been set free from our old nature so that we may walk in the divine nature, guided by the Holy Spirit. Another benefit that we minister in the Good News is freedom from our oppressors. Once we have a renewed relationship with the Father, we see that He is in control of everything that happens to us in our life. When something happens that may seem negative at first glance, we need to realize that GOD is working a deeper purpose for His Kingdom through our lives. We are then freed from the burden of oppression to walk in the liberty of our LORD, regardless of whatever circumstance that we may find ourselves in.

The Good News that we minister also speaks of healing, both in the physical and spiritual senses. This reference particularly refers to blindness but as we can see in the Gospel accounts, Yeshua healed many physical afflictions. From the spiritual sense, perhaps blindness was the most important. One can miss the best that our Father has to offer if we are blind to His ways. The disciple must therefore become a teacher to the blind to show them the ways of salvation that are evidenced in the feast of the LORD and how these spiritual matters can transform their lives. The disciple, who is now the teacher, must proclaim to their disciples the year of favor of the LORD. It is the intention of Yeshua to ease that burdens of the people by bring them into the authority of GOD's Kingdom. Yeshua referred to it in this manner, Matthew 11:29, 30 NLT:

Take My yoke upon you. Let Me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light."